



South Dakota Department of the Military South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs



OPERATION RAV



SDDVA Secretary Zimmerman is pleased with the response at the Operation RAV booth at the State Capitol. "In a small amount of time, we've made a difference in the lives of a dozen veterans," said Zimmerman.

"We appreciate the support we have received from Gov. Daugaard, Lt. Gov. Michels, the veterans service organizations, and the County and Tribal Veterans Service Officers," said Zimmerman.

The following CTVSOs have assisted at the booth: Mike Holzhauser, Wendy Weakland, Angella Sutton, Terry Cousins, Ken Lindblad, Ron Falor, Roy Faraabee, Fred Kuil, Steve McClure and Gordon Richard.



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Heroes Among Us—
showcasing 125 South Dakota
veterans.



SD NATIONAL GUARD HOSTS 30TH ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE DINING-OUT

The South Dakota National Guard hosted the 2014 Legislative Dining-Out at the Ramkota Hotel and Convention Center in Pierre, Thursday, Feb. 6. This annual tradition has brought Guardsmen and the state Legislature together for a formal evening for the last 30 years, but the tradition of the dining-out and/or dining-in date back much further.

"The Guard is an organization that is rich in history and tradition," said Maj. Corey Norris, SDNG congressional action contact officer. "This event provides the Guard an opportunity to honor the legislators by hosting them at a traditional military event where we highlight our significant accomplishments to the community, state and nation."

The atmosphere, while formal, includes deep-rooted traditions which lighten the mood and provide both members and guests not only plenty of laughs, but a chance to learn some of the organizations history and traditions and an opportunity to recognize individual and/or unit achievements.

The Legislature was also shown a video highlighting 2013 and the many accomplishments made by the men and women of the SDNG. In addition to the many SDNG accomplishments highlighted during the night, the Guard also recognized a family member, employer and public servant with an award for their contributions to the SDNG mission.

The awards portion of the dining-out began by presenting NorthWestern Energy with the 2013 South Dakota Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve (SD ESGR) Pro Patria Award.

The Pro Patria Award is presented to the one employer in the state who provides the most exceptional support of our national defense through leadership practices and personnel policies that support their employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve.

NorthWestern Energy is an investor-owned utility and one of the largest providers of electricity and natural gas in the northwest quadrant of the United States and serves approximately 673,200 customers in Montana, South Dakota and Nebraska. With its corporate headquarters in Sioux Falls, NorthWestern Energy employs more than 1,400 people, including Chief Warrant Officer 4, Kenneth Schoenfelder, a foreman with the company and member of the SDNG's 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade.

"Employers are inextricably linked to the nation's defense by sharing their most precious assets, their employees," said Maj. Lona Christensen, SD ESGR executive director, during the award presentation. "NorthWestern Energy is being recognized for their outstanding contributions to the state and nation's military services. Their leadership exemplifies the patriotic spirit that is alive and well here in our great state of South Dakota."

NorthWestern Energy realizes the importance of a strong force and provides support and opportunities to members of the armed forces. Employees of NorthWestern Energy are provided differential pay, accumulation of paid time off, and access to health insurance at the employee share cost for the first six months of their military duty.

NorthWestern Energy has fully supported Chief Schoenfelder's military career. Since Desert Storm, he has deployed three times and with each deployment he and his family have received increased support from NorthWestern Energy. This support came in the form of care packages, co-workers checking in on the family, and assistance when things need to be fixed.



SD NATIONAL GUARD HOSTS 30TH ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE DINING-OUT (CONTINUED)

The SDNG next awarded the 2014 Williamson Militiaman Award to Gov. Dennis Daugaard. The Williamson Militiaman Award was established in 1987 by Maj. Gen. Ronald F. Williamson (retired) to recognize an individual who exemplifies the spirit of the citizen-Soldier as shown by their community leadership, their support of the National Guard and the defense of our country. As the Governor of South Dakota, Daugaard also serves as commander-in-chief of the SDNG. Since taking office in January of 2011, Gov. Daugaard has been a tremendous supporter of the Guard.

"He is the type of leader that understands the value of the National Guard, and recognizes the unique talents that Soldiers and Airmen possess, and the broad variety of missions they are capable of accomplishing," said Maj. Gen. Tim Reisch, the adjutant general of the SDNG.

Daugaard has not hesitated to call upon the Guard in support of state emergencies. He personally led emergency flood protection efforts to avoid catastrophic flooding along the Missouri River just months after taking office, and would call on approximately 1,900 Guardsmen to combat flooding. The following year, he called on his forces to provide aviation fire suppression on 17 wild fires. In October 2013, 131 Guardsmen and women once again answered the governor's call to support local citizens in western South Dakota after Winter Storm Atlas devastated the region.

While serving as the lieutenant governor and governor, Daugaard has seen more than 7,200 of South Dakota's citizen-Soldiers and Airmen deploy in support of overseas contingency operations, and he attended nearly every activation and welcome home ceremony held for South Dakota units. In April of 2012, Daugaard showed tremendous leadership when he traveled to Kuwait and Afghanistan and met with three SDNG units that were deployed there. Soldiers were thrilled their commander-in-chief cared so deeply about them that he would risk his personal safety to visit them in a combat zone.

To conclude the awards portion of the evening, Maj. Gen. Tim Reisch awarded the 2013 Adjutant General's Family Award to Mrs. LuAnne Johnson of Rapid City.

"As the adjutant general, I recognize the vital importance of our families to the success of our National Guard mission," Reisch said during the award presentation. "The goal of this award is to recognize those family members who support their service members in an exemplary manner while managing family, careers, or even hardship, all the while not seeking recognition for their sacrifices."

LuAnne is the wife of recently retired Brig. Gen. Ted Johnson. As both a wife and mother of National Guard members, she is a dedicated volunteer and has been a mainstay in the SDNG for many years. LuAnne attended countless activation and welcome home ceremonies since 9-11, served as integral member of several Family Readiness Groups, and supported service members, their families and retirees. She has also served as the co-chair for the Elder Tree Program during the past 10 years, which provides gifts and necessary items to veterans in need throughout the Black Hills area.

"LuAnne's attributes of strength, faith, optimism, resiliency and perseverance have made her an invaluable resource for the National Guard for years," said Reisch during the ceremony. "She truly epitomizes what this award is all about – a family member who has supported their service member and others in a truly exemplary manner, while never seeking recognition for her efforts."

Following the awards ceremony and bringing the evening to a close, Gov. Dennis Daugaard addressed the soldiers and airmen in attendance. Daugaard specifically thanked Guard members for their continuous support on missions both at home and abroad.



HEROES AMONG US

At the age of 17, Dean Foucault, joined the reserve and graduated from high school in 1952. He then gave up his part time job at Old Home Bakery and enlisted in the Navy. Inducted at Duluth, MN, he traveled to Great Lakes Naval Training Station where he completed boot camp and worked in the truck shop until he was sent to Norman, Oklahoma. Transferred to San Diego he began on the job training, as an aircraft mechanic. He was flown to Guam, where he worked on planes as he continued to do at Formosa and Taiwan.

Dean considered himself lucky to get into the Naval Air and was stationed on several aircraft carriers. The air craft carrier USS Philippine Sea (pictured below) was his next station. He worked on aircraft engines for the next five months. While in the Yellow Sea his aircraft dropped over 12 million tons of armament over Korea. He returned to San Diego, then on to Oceana, Virginia, where he was stationed on the aircraft carrier, USS Midway with the DA 25th Squadron. They crossed the North Atlantic in 45 days to where he participated in a seven month Mediterranean Cruise. Leaving the Mediterranean, they headed to Oslo and toured the Scandinavian Coastline. In December of 1954 Dean returned to Oceana Virginia, transferred to the USS Ticonderoga for a tour of the Caribbean, docking at Guantanamo, Cuba for several months. In February 1955, Dean declined re-enlistment and was flown to Miami, Florida. He attended Mardi Gra, traveled on to Detroit and bought a car, and finally returned to Duluth, MN.

Dean had been running a shipping dock in Duluth when he decided to move on to Silver Bay, MN where he worked in the mines for eleven years. In 1978 he traveled to Wright, Wyoming to work at Thunder Basin Coal as a train loader operator. In Wyoming he met Bernadine (Bernie) and married her on October 10th, 1978.

Dean and Bernie moved into the Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home Nov 11th, 2005, but that hasn't slowed him down a bit. He is still active in the Korean War Vets Association and he is the main builder/supervisor for the Veterans Honored Interment (VHI) program. He is the vice president of the board of directors of VHI and can often be found building "one more casket". His goal is to always have 25 or more on hand in case they are needed while he is out fishing.

Dean enjoys fly fishing, hunting, and trap shooting. He also enjoys traveling and camping, so much so that it sometimes seems that he and Bernie are rarely at the Veterans Home. He is also an avid motor car enthusiast having a prize winning car that he babies at every opportunity.

Thanks Dean, for your unending service to this state and this country and for the work you are doing with the VHI program!!!!



HEROES AMONG US



Cliff Carter was drafted into the Army in 1948 and served in Occupied Japan. When his tour was up, he transferred to the Army Reserve and moved to Sully County to get married to his wife Darlene. When hostilities broke out in Korea, he was immediately called back to active duty and shipped to Seattle.

"I went to Seattle by train," said Carter. Some South Korean soldiers were also there to drill with his unit. "We got along pretty good with them. They couldn't speak English, but there was no discrimination or anything. They got paid the same as us and so forth, so they liked that. They had it pretty rough in the Korean Army."

His unit was loaded up on a ship for the trip to the front. They ended up landing above the 38th parallel, in North Korea. "It was a cold and miserable winter on the

frontline," said Carter.

Carter served as a rifleman attached to an artillery company, and as a regular, he was always up front. His outfit was involved in the stalemate along the 38th parallel. "The Chinese got involved and pushed the Americans back south of the 38th parallel, and then the Americans pushed back," said Carter. "There was quite a bit of back and forth."

During his tour overseas, Carter's son Jim was born. With the signing of the Armistice, his time was up, so he got to come home. "It was quite an experience," said Carter regarding his tour. At home, he worked on some farms and even started his own farm. "I did odd jobs, and was a knock around," said Carter.

On the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War, Carter received a certificate of recognition which hangs proudly in his home.

Thanks Cliff, for your unending service to this state and this country!!!!



GREAT PLAINS WRITERS' CONFERENCE

The SDSU English Department is pleased to announce the theme for the 2014 Great Plains Writers' Conference is "Coming Home: War, Healing, and American Culture."

The conference will be held March 23-25 in Brookings and will focus on the roles of military culture in American literary life, with particular emphasis on the relationship—on a personal and cultural level—between literature and healing. This theme reflects South Dakota's proportionately large contribution to the armed forces, as well as South Dakota State University's large body (over seven hundred strong) of Military Science students, reservists, and ROTC candidates.

The robust lineup for the conference includes: poet Brian Turner (author of *Here, Bullet* and *Phantom Noise*), as well as readings and workshops from Ron Capps (the Founder and Director of the Veterans Writing Project), Donald Anderson (Editor of the journal *War, Literature, and the Arts* and professor at the U.S. Air Force Academy), Jehanne Dubrow (author of the noted "home front" poetry collection *Stateside*), Patrick Hicks (author of the forthcoming WWII novel *The Commandant of Lubizec*), and Katey Schultz (author of *Flashes of War*, the 2013 Gold Medal Book of the Year for literary fiction by the Military Writers Society of America).

SDDVA Secretary Zimmerman will provide opening remarks and the welcome message for this conference.

Great Plains Writers' Conference

2014 Great Plains Writers' Conference (March 23-25) Coming Home: War, Healing, and American Culture

This year's conference will celebrate and explore the connections between war, military culture, and American literary life, with particular emphasis on the relationship—on a personal and cultural level—between literature and healing. Guests include:

Brian Turner, author of *Here, Bullet* and *Phantom Noise*, NEA fellow in poetry, and combat Veteran of Iraq and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Ron Capps, Founder and Director of the Veterans Writing Project (Washington, DC), combat Veteran of Afghanistan.

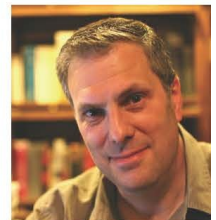
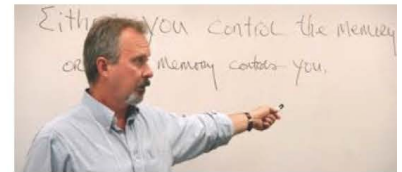
David Abrams, a Department of Defense's Military Journalist of the Year and author of the Iraq War novel *Fobbit*, named a *New York Times* Notable Book of 2012.

Patrick Hicks, author of the forthcoming WWII novel *The Commandant of Lubizec* and a volunteer leader for creative writing workshops at the V.A. Hospital in Sioux Falls.

Katey Schultz, author of *Flashes of War*, which was named the 2013 Gold Medal Book of the Year for literary fiction by the Military Writers Society of America.

Stay tuned in February 2014 for a full conference schedule. Visit <http://greatplainswritersconference.wordpress.com> and friend us on Facebook for updates.

Sponsors include the South Dakota Humanities Council, Wendell & Marjorie DeBoer, Anita Bahr, SDSU's English Department, College of Arts & Sciences, Vice President for Academic Affairs, *Oakwood* magazine, and the SDSU Foundation.



Upcoming Events

2014

Feb. 15—Veterans Benefits Fair—Washington Pavilion—Sioux Falls—1:00 pm
Feb. 15—Valentines for Veterans Concert—Washington Pavilion—Sioux Falls—3:00 pm
Feb 15-16- 152nd Reintegration 30 Day Yellow Ribbon Event—Sioux Falls
Feb. 18-19—SDDVA New VSO Orientation—Sioux Falls
Mar. 21—Veterans Legal Services Workshop—VA Sioux Falls—4th Floor—9:00 am
Apr. 5-6—152nd Yellow Ribbon
Apr. 7—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—BHNC—9:00 am
May 2-4—DAV State Convention—Ramkota Hotel—Aberdeen
May 6—SDDVA Mini Conference—Sturgis - Veterans Club, 868 Main Street—10:00 am (MT)
May 7—SDDVA Mini Conference—Pierre - American Legion, 520 S. Pierre Street—10:00 am (CT)
May 8—SDDVA Mini Conference—Brookings - City/County Building, 520 3rd Street—10:00 am (CT)
Jun 5-8—VFW State Convention—Custer
Jun. 19-22—American Legion State Convention—Ramkota Hotel—Pierre
Jul. 7—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—BHNC—9:00 am
Aug. 6—DOL Veterans Job Fair—Augustana College Elmen Center—10:00 am—2:00 pm
Aug. 25-29—NACVSO Training Ramkota Hotel—Pierre
Oct. 6—BHNC Unaccompanied Veterans Memorial Service—BHNC—9:00 am

Audry Ricketts, Public Information Officer
South Dakota Department of the Military <http://mva.sd.gov>
South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs <http://vetaffairs.sd.gov>
Soldiers and Sailors Building
425 E Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone: 605-773-8242
E-mail address: audry.ricketts@state.sd.us

